

1. (Amended) Surgical apparatus comprising an elongated cannula further comprising:

a first lumen extending within the cannula between proximal and

distal ends thereof for housing an endoscope therein;

a transparent tip disposed at the distal end of the first lumen for

providing dissection and endoscopic visualization therethrough;

and

a second lumen having an open distal end positioned intermediate the

proximal and distal ends of the first lumen for housing a

surgical instrument therein to protrude from the open distal end

for performing surgical procedures on tissue viewed through

the transparent tip.

2. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the second lumen is configured to house surgical scissors therein.

3. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the second lumen is configured to house therein blades of surgical scissors curved in a predetermined angle.

4. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the second lumen is keyed to maintain tips of surgical scissors housed within the second lumen in a predetermined rotational orientation with respect to the transparent tip.

5. (Twice Amended) The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the second lumen is configured to house therein blades of surgical scissors that curve toward the transparent tip to provide endoscopic visualization of the blades upon extension from the open distal end of the second lumen.
6. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the transparent tip is tapered.
7. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising:
 - a flexible hood having an open proximal end coupled to the distal end of the second lumen and operable in a transition orientation responsive to a surgical instrument being retracted within the second lumen proximally from the transparent tip, and in an expanded orientation in response to extension therethrough of a surgical instrument projecting forward from the open distal end of the second lumen.
8. The apparatus of claim 7 wherein the hood comprises an elastic material.
9. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 7 wherein the distal end of the hood extends substantially to a proximal edge of the transparent tip.
10. The apparatus of claim 7 wherein the hood comprises a material having sufficient smoothness to facilitate tissue sliding over the hood.

11. (Twice Amended) The apparatus of claim 1 in combination with a tissue bisector as a surgical instrument disposed within the second lumen.
12. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the transparent tip has a proximal end of maximal dimension less than a maximal dimension of the cannula.
13. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the cannula includes a transition contour near the location therealong at which the first lumen extends beyond the open distal end of the second lumen to reduce axial force required to advance the cannula through tissue.
14. (Twice Amended) The apparatus of claim 1 in combination with a retractor having a curved distal end as a surgical instrument slidably disposed within the second lumen for cradling a vein in the curved distal end as extended distally from the open distal end of the second lumen.
15. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the cannula comprises another lumen for housing therein a dissection loop instrument including at least one stem extending through another lumen and including a curved element attached to a distal end of the stem.
16. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the cannula includes a storage groove disposed near the open distal end of the second lumen and

configured to store a dissection loop including the curved element of the dissection loop instrument.

17. (Non-elected) A surgical procedure using a multi-lumen cannula including a first lumen extending there through between proximal and distal ends thereof and having a transparent tapered tip at the distal end of the first lumen for receiving an endoscope therein, and including a second lumen extending for receiving a surgical instrument therein, the procedure comprising:

advancing the cannula to dissect tissue with the transparent tapered tip
under endoscopic visualization through the transparent tip;
selectively extending the surgical instrument out of the second lumen
forward of the cannula; and
performing the surgical procedure using the surgical instrument under
endoscopic visualization through the transparent tapered tip.

18. (non-elected) The procedure of claim 17 wherein the surgical tool is surgical scissors, and performing the surgical procedure comprises transecting side branches of a saphenous vein.

19. (Non-elected) The procedure of claim 18 further comprising the steps of:
removing the scissors from the second lumen of the cannula;
inserting a cradled retractor into the second lumen of the cannula;

extending the retractor from the second lumen forward of the cannula
to cradle the vein; and
advancing the retractor along the vein under endoscopic visualization
through the transparent tip to ensure that side branches of the
vein have been transected.

20. (Non-elected) A method of harvesting veins using a multi-lumen cannula in
which a first lumen houses an endoscope and has a transparent tip and a second
lumen houses a surgical scissors comprising:

advancing the cannula along a vein under endoscopic visualization;
dissecting tissue responsive to advancing the cannula with the
transparent tip;
responsive to viewing a sidebranch requiring transection, extending
the surgical scissors out of the cannula; and
transecting the sidebranch.

REMARKS

Withdrawal of the non-elected claims 17-20 from further consideration in
this application is noted. These claims are being retained in this application,
unexamined, pending allowance of a generic or linking claim.